

Center:

4.	Trivia
5.	Planeswalkers met
6.	Planes visited
7.	Gallery
8.	Story appearances
9.	In-game references
10.	References
11.	External links

Sources
<i>A Planeswalker's Guide to Alara, Scars of Mirrodin: The Quest for Karn</i>
Scryfall Search
lore:"Elspeth"

## Appearance and characteristics

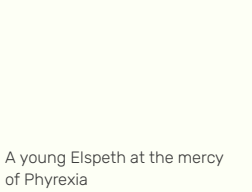
Elspeth is a brunette<sup>[3]</sup> female human who used to be clad in a flowing white robe and white gilded armor. She stands at 5'8" and weighs 140lbs.<sup>[2]</sup> Elspeth is a warrior, who thinks all should be free. Tormented by memories of her past, a time spent in servitude to the Phyrexians, she fights against those abusing their power everywhere. She harbors an intense hatred for the Phyrexians that sometimes outweighs her own better judgment.

Elspeth is centered in white mana. She specializes in the powerful magic of community and fortification, spells that build mighty armies, bolster them, and protect them from harm. She uses ritualized sword fighting forms to channel mana and cast her spells.<sup>[4]</sup>

On Capenna, Elspeth discovered that she inexplicably emitted a faint angel-like golden glow.<sup>[5]</sup>

## History

### Childhood



Elspeth's life immediately before her ascension was spent as a prisoner along with many other beings, locked tightly away and tortured. In this prison, the Phyrexians of her homeworld tended to those of their numbers they felt insane. Elspeth and her peers were a distraction meant to soothe the insanity of the flawed Phyrexians. As a child, she and boy attempted to smuggle themselves out of the facility by hiding under a pile

of corpses, unaware that the stench of decay was attractive to unwholly compleat Phyrexians. Upon being discovered and restrained for vivisection, her spark ignited and she planeswalked away,<sup>[6]</sup> landing on Theros. She was only 13 at the time. She spent the next few years of her young life seeking a place that was safe, suffering unknown hardships until finally, she stumbled across Bant.

### The Alaran Paradise

In Bant, Elspeth found everything that was missing from her life: community, love, and most importantly, peace. At 16, she was training and eager to become a Knight of Bant.<sup>[7]</sup> She settled in the nation of Valeron and at 17 she began her training as a squire.<sup>[6]</sup> In a short 3 years she was knighted, younger than almost anyone. Her fellow knights did not know her ability to planeswalk or of her origins, she kept the nature of her origin and abilities secret and allayed any question concerning her birthplace, only admitting to not being from Valeron. In time, she earned more sigils than any other member of her order.<sup>[8]</sup>

One day, two years after she had last used her abilities, her peaceful idyll was shattered when the broken body of a planeswalker crashed down near her outpost. With the help of Bant's balmgivers and Rhox monks, she nursed Ajani Goldmane back to health. Given his condition upon arrival, she thought she had found a kindred spirit and sought to convince him to stay upon Bant. Unfortunately, after a confrontation, she was rudely proven wrong. Ajani left with only a dire warning that their worlds were closer than she thought.

After this warning, her mind was continually troubled. Concerned with some of the distressing rumors she had heard, she went out with her squire Aran to search for evidence. At a Rhox

monastery, they found a [Grixis](#) incursion zone.

The [Conflux](#) had begun for Elspeth. She rushed back to the castle she served and took part in a disastrous defense of her home. Aran fell to the enemy, and something in Elspeth finally broke.

Elspeth seeking meaning to the warning

She cast aside all the rules of civil warfare that

Bant cherished and unleashed her full powers, devastating her enemies and bringing Aran back to life. All the members of the castle looked at her with newfound respect and admiration, but what she felt in their eyes was expectation and accusation, as if she had betrayed them somehow. She stripped herself of her sigils as a result, feeling they were a weight too heavy to bear.

Her rank was not so easily given up though. She still led her platoon under the Knight-General [Rafiq](#) during the battle of [Jhess](#) to drive the invading forces of [Esper](#) away, but was brought low by her alder the command of an Esper mage. As a result of her injuries, she was no longer allowed to fight on the front lines, but she refused to let Bant suffer in strife. She sought some way to help and with that mind, she interrogated [Gwafa Hazid](#) in hopes of learning who had manipulated the events behind the destruction of Giltspire Castle, which marked the start of the problems on Bant. What she learned shocked her, and she went to the assembled forces at the ruins of Giltspire Castle in hopes of defending it. Ultimately, she assisted Rafiq in killing [Malfegor](#), effectively ending Bant's part in the Conflux war.

Despite how hard she had fought, her feelings had still been inexorably changed. She was brutally reminded that Alara was not her world, and she had no right to the position they had asked of her. Worst of all, Bant had been changed forever and was no longer the plane she cherished. With a heavy heart, she planeswalked away.

## Vengeance and Redemption

Elspeth's self-imposed exile brought her back to familiar grounds. She had spent some time in [Urborg](#) as a youth and she chose to return there, wallowing in her grief and anger.<sup>[9]</sup> The environment suited her mood and to make enough money to eat, and perhaps to satisfy her fury, she began fighting in gladiatorial pits, misusing her training as a knight to win. It was in one such match that Ajani once again found her. The appearance of the leonin distracted her [opponent](#) enough that he dropped his guard, allowing her to land a strike that revealed a familiar [mark](#) from her past on the warrior's body. Instantly enraged, she sought to strike down her foe, and only the timely intervention of her old friend managed to save him.

After the match, Ajani informed Elspeth that he had been tracking her, hoping to convince her to return to Bant. He scolded her, telling her that there was no honor in what she was doing, that ultimately she could still help Bant if she would just return and that she was wasted in a wretched place like Urborg. His pleas fell on deaf ears. Elspeth was without hope and she sent him away, telling him there was no point in fighting what was inevitable. Saddened, Ajani left, bestowing one last kindness upon her. He returned the armor she had left on Bant after Malfegor's fall, the armor she thought herself unworthy to wear.

Later that night, Elspeth found Koth. He demanded to know where she knew of his mark and she refused. He told her of the mark, that it was a reminder of the people of his plane, of those who had fallen to the Phyrexians, and his vow to stop them. The next morning, Koth took Elspeth to a ruined structure called The Tomb of Flesh. They spoke of their homes, of the places they cherished, and once more Elspeth lamented Bant's fate. Koth used his [geomancy](#) to create a path to the tomb and conjuring a light, Elspeth saw a haunting image from her past, and once more, terrified and chilled, she fled from the dark corners of the world.

Koth found her once more at the ruins of a castle, and asked her to come with him to [The Heroes' Memorial](#). Once there, he gifted her with gems, telling her to trap her fear in them, but she simply stated that the past is not so easily forgotten. Here in the temple, Koth communed with the stone altar and learned only one thing: They must find [Venser](#). The artificer was not hard to find, being a long-standing target for the [acolytes](#) who tended the memorial. The pair went to see Venser and the pair were shocked to find a Phyrexian vessel being rebuilt, improved in fact, to act as a planeshifting ship. When it became obvious Venser had no idea the powers he was meddling with, Koth flew into a rage and encased his head in a stone mask, coercing him to walk to Mirrodin. Elspeth was appalled at the sudden violent act, but Koth did not care, stating simply that he had no choice. He appealed to her once more to come and help him, to atone for her mistake. He did not wait for her answer, leaving her to make the decision herself.

## The Quest for Karn

Elspeth followed Koth with his erstwhile guest, finally seeing the lands the [Vulshok](#) called home. Despite his dire warnings, she saw nothing particularly threatening and Venser continued his tirade against the geomancer. Koth broke off his argument with Venser long enough to tell the pair of the conflicts raging across the surface, and of the dark threat that threatened the plane itself. Koth sought an old friend to help Elspeth's Blinding Radiance him tell them of the true enemy, but what he found was the surprising spread of the [Mephidross](#), stretching farther than he could have expected.<sup>[10]</sup> The trio looked for Koth's acquaintance but they were ambushed by a group of [nim](#). The companions quickly fought off the [nim](#), but once again the dark images of Elspeth's past loomed in her mind, and with a doleful sigh, she told the arguing walkers that she cannot go any further.

Separating herself from her companions, Elspeth wandered until a Vulshok shaman took her in. The two conversed, and Elspeth once again lost herself in her past. This malaise did not go unnoticed, and the Vulshok berated Elspeth for her cowardice, telling her that she should be struck down for ignoring the enemies before her. Elspeth lamented that it would take more than her death to stay the Phyrexian infection. The Vulshok told the knight that if her word is worth anything, she should be fighting instead of talking.

These words took root within Elspeth, and she quickly found herself drawn to the source of the Phyrexian forces, [Ish Sah](#). From here though, she learned her companions had not been so fortunate as she had. Tracking their location, she made her way to where they were held and cut a swath of destruction to them. With her sudden reappearance, the trio overwhelmed their captors and made good their escape. She prepared to finally put her fears to rest, not knowing the sheer number of the forces arrayed against them.

Elspeth, Venser, and Koth traveled to the Vault of Whispers, where they witnessed the emergence of a Phyrexian army that was invading the surface. During their observation, Elspeth froze when being in such proximity to the Phyrexians brought back memories of her captivity, and was almost captured. After several hours, the army passed, and the three companions entered the Vault, following a Myr secretly sent by [Tezzeret](#) to guide them. It led them to [Geth](#), and in secret, they followed him into the interior of the world. They came upon a butchering room in which they engaged massive Phyrexian butchers; Elspeth slew many, but they were outnumbered and managed to escape further into Mirrodin's underground through a meat shaft. When they emerged from the shaft they encountered [Ezuri](#), leader of a band of Mirran rebels. While Venser insisted that they had to continue to find Karn, Ezuri said that he could allow them to go no further. He revealed that the Phyrexian invasion had profited him greatly, catapulting him into a heroic leadership position that he loathed to give up. When Elspeth threatened Ezuri, however, the elf backed down and his followers fled after a display of Venser's meager magics. The companions continued further towards Mirrodin's core, eventually being met by Tezzeret.

Tezzeret led the companions to a surgery room, where Elspeth, angered by the sight of Phyrexians experimenting on creatures, flew into a rage, slaying all the Phyrexians in the room in a matter of moments. They freed [Melira](#), a Mirran born without any metal on her body, from the cages. Tezzeret said this was his gift to them; she was completely immune to [phyresis](#). During the subsequent travels, Elspeth grew very protective of Melira. They began traveling back towards the surface but were surrounded and attacked by a massive force of Phyrexians. During the battle, Elspeth was the center of the Phyrexians' attention, slaying most of them and creating piles of dead around her so high that the other companions lost sight of her.

The companions eventually reached the furnace layer, where the Phyrexians ignored any Mirran survivors and found Ezuri's rebel camp. There they were welcomed, despite their previous encounter, and Melira's ability to

Koth and Elspeth

heal phyresis was discovered. She healed all those in the camp that were infected by the [glistening oil](#), healing non-stop for several days while Elspeth sat with her in the tent, speaking to her. Once everyone in the camp was healed, a council was called in which Ezuri, hoping to become more influential,

invited Melira to stay with them while subtly telling the companions to leave. Melira said she would leave with the companions, however, and Elspeth and the others prepared to leave for the core to try to find Karn. While they were leaving, the camp was attacked by Tezzeret's Phyrexians, and the companions found a guide to take them further. They escaped the battle and followed the guide, whom only Elspeth was trusting. After some time, Koth, angry at their lack of progress about the surface war, took Melira and left, leaving Venser and Elspeth alone with the guide. They hurried after Koth but were ambushed by Tezzeret's Phyrexians. Elspeth went into a battle fury, wiping out the massive force, but just as she killed the last of them, an even larger force appeared.

The Phyrexians carried the Planeswalkers away, but while their captors were trying to figure out how to access a doorway, Koth and Melira reappeared and freed the pair. By the time the Phyrexians realized that their captives were gone, the companions were already running. Venser's strength, however, was wearing thin, and they were forced to stop. He was able to concoct an explosive from the metal on the walls and blow up part of the tunnel, sealing it temporarily, but it was only a matter of time before a group of Phyrexians, led by Glissa, broke through. While she was taunting them, however, Tezzeret appeared and his forces did battle with Glissa's, allowing the companions to escape and reach Karn's throne room uninterrupted. There, they found Karn corrupted by the [Phyrexian oil](#), and Melira told the companions that his heart was corrupted. Venser told the others that he was already dying and had been for years and that he was likely unable to last much longer. With his last strength, Venser gave his life and spark to Karn, curing the golem. Cured and lucid once again, Karn spoke with Elspeth, who told him that he could not kill all the Phyrexians. Karn replied that he knew, and that is why he needed their help; He asked them to begin organizing and leading the resistance with Melira to try to cleanse Mirrodin, no matter how long it would take. Purposefully and ready for the long battle ahead, the group left the throne room and headed back towards the surface to begin their war.

## Mirrodin Falls

But the war on [New Phyrexia](#) failed miserably. [Elesh Norn](#) gained an increasing influence over the other praetor's forces and eventually seized power over [Sheoldred](#) and [Urabrask](#)'s territories. This led to the slaughter of the resistance, and in a last-ditch attempt, the remainder of their forces pooled together to strike at the hierarchy while that gesture might still have meaning. Koth led a force to plant a highly destructive spellbomb at a gathering of the praetors, but the mission went awry nearly as soon as it began. Their forces were decimated to the point that Elspeth wondered if she and [Koth](#) were the last "natural" beings on the plane. Surrounded by the Praetor's forces, [Koth](#) told Elspeth to leave, using his power to sink her into the ground so that she would have only one option left to her. He erected a shield to protect her from the blast, but the Phyrexian forces finally broke through and a [Phyrexian Obliterator](#) grievously injured the trapped knight before she could leave. In a half lucid state, she planeswalked away, incapacitated, and delirious from her near-fatal wounds.

## Theros

She awoke on [Theros](#), the world to which she had first planeswalked fifteen years earlier.<sup>[1]</sup>

She had been drawn to the plane for the divine nature of the gods, in hopes they would provide stability. In the past, she had witnessed a battle between [Heliod](#) and [Purphoros](#), and had found the Sword of Chaos when it was knocked to the mortal world from Purphoros's hand. It was during this brief period that she met [Daxos](#) and earned the attention of Heliod. However, overwhelmed by the presence of the god, she fled, taking the sword as she went.

After Mirrodin, Elspeth landed at a temple of [Pharika](#)'s worshipers, and wrote a letter to [Ajani](#), rolled up in a bottle and then dumped in the bogs, a custom for the prayers of Pharika's worshipers. Once her strength was regained, Elspeth journeyed out, hoping to find a place in the world where she could learn of the gods and understand their abilities. This quest drew her to [Akros](#) where she joined a mercenary band to earn a place within the city. However, her

presence had not gone unnoticed, for the sword she bore had been lost for years. When she found Heliod in his temple, he tried to kill her, but he was rebuffed by her magic, stunning the supposed King of the Gods. Threatened by her power and the sword, he transformed the blade into a spear he dubbed *Godsend* and commanded her to make her way to his main temple in *Meletis*.

However, the journey was not to be a peaceful one. Every god wished to possess the weapon and were all driven to frenzy, manipulated in secret by *Xenagos* to fear what the others might do should they claim the blade. The caravan that Elspeth traveled with was set upon again and again until at last the gods nearly destroyed much of Theros in their blind desire. *Kruphix* commanded them all to return to *Nyx* where they would be unable to harm the mortal world, but *Nylea* was the only one aware of the threat looming upon Meletis even as he did so. Elspeth encountered *Polukranos*, a massive hydra that had slain countless warriors. Elspeth engaged the hydra with the help of Daxos and succeeded where so many had failed, slaying it. This feat of heroism secured her place at the temple of Heliod in Meletis as the god's champion.

### Journey into Nyx

Months passed as she learned what the priests of Heliod had to teach, but mostly she found she enjoyed the time spent with Daxos the most. They grew closer, but he seemed reluctant to answer her questions as she wanted him to. He pushed her away, using Heliod's dogma to keep her from learning too much. At last, they had an argument that seemed to drive a wedge between them, but Daxos apologized and asked her to travel with him. Together, they rode to the place they had met.

Elspeth kills the god Xenagos in Nyx.

When they returned to Meletis, they found *Anthousa* waiting for Daxos, and stories of the Nyxborn attacking humanity. The only option they could find was to consult the ageless sphinx known as *Medomai*. He had nothing but dire predictions for the pair and a vision of Akros under siege. What the pair did not understand was that the vision was not of the future. Along with Anthousa, they rode hard to defend Akros. They found the unexpected, the minotaurs having constructed a giant wall to keep reinforcements out. As they spoke of what they could do, Queen *Cymede* suddenly barged in, saying that they had captured a satyr that demanded to speak to Elspeth.

She was led to the dungeons where she found Xenagos chained. He told her that he knew how they could destroy the army without ever battling, and she listened to him tell his plan. They would raise the river that ran through Akros and sweep the army away, but for it to succeed Cymede and Daxos would have to raise the river while the invaders were distracted. When King Anax heard this plan, he knew the perfect distraction and challenged the horde's leader to a duel, naming Elspeth as his second. The plan worked and Akros stood.

After leading the armies of Akros to victory, the king ordered a celebration that was held to honor her victory. Together, alone in their tent, Daxos and Elspeth finally realized their feelings for each other. But it was not to be. Xenagos appeared as they slept, thrilled with how well she followed his plan. He controlled her and brought back her darkest memory, trapped with the *Phyrexian Obliterator* looming over her, but she

Heliod kills Elspeth.

struck out and killed it... only realizing too late that she had just killed Daxos.

Outside the tent, the revel had been suborned by Xenagos, and as she fled, she saw Xenagos ascend into Nyx. She was met with scorn by the citizens of the polis and fled for her life into the wilderness. Her world was thrown into chaos as even the god she had sought to understand turned against her. Heliod was wroth, believing she was implicit in Xenagos's plan, and sought to destroy her.

Cast out, she found an unexpected ally in the Leonin. With the help of [Brimaz](#), she reunited with her old friend Ajani. He was curious about what had befallen her, but she refused to speak of how badly she'd been hurt. Instead, she swore they would set things right, and Ajani agreed to stay at her side. To do so, they would have to travel to the mysterious temple of [Kruphix](#) at the edge of the world. They traveled by river from the Nessian forest to the Siren's Shipyard, seeking the legendary mariner [Callaphe](#). Standing amidst the shattered wreckage of ships, Ajani called up the legendary sunken ship known as the *Monsoon*, and to their surprise, Callaphe appeared as soon as her ship had risen from the deep.

She agreed to take them to the edge of the world, but that turned out to be a lie. Upon reaching the sunken city of [Arixmethes](#), Callaphe revealed that her identity was a falsehood, and that she was in truth the merfolk planeswalker [Kiora](#). [Thassa](#) confronted them, intending to deal with the lying merfolk, but not before sending the pair on their way, wishing them luck. They arrived at the edge of the world, and the god [Kruphix](#) allowed them to pass to the gateway of Nyx, the shrine of Nykthos. To gain entry to Nyx, Elspeth had to undergo an ordeal sent from the gods, and Ajani urged Elspeth to take Thassa's ordeal, but she pulled away from him at the last moment and gained entry from [Erebos](#).

She was suddenly elsewhere, back on Bant as she watched a husband she had never had depart their small cottage. She had lived with him for years, and she could not bear it as she realized it was false. It was only the start though, as she looked upon her son and daughter. The little girl, named Mina, urged her to drink from a golden goblet, strangely out of place, and she realized what it would mean to drink from that cup. Though it broke her heart, she smashed the cup and passed Erebos's ordeal.

Haunted by the memories of the life she had never lived, the pair set to the task at hand. They confronted Xenagos and battled the god until at last Elspeth struck him down. As Xenagos's body fell back to Theros, Elspeth offered her life in trade for Daxos, a deal the god took gladly. Ajani insisted they could escape, the battle had taken its toll, and Nylea warned the pair that they must flee before Erebos or [Heliod](#) found them. They managed to reach Nykthos again before Heliod appeared and using her weapon fatally wounded Elspeth.

## The Underworld

Ajani took his dying friend back to Theros and prepared to fight the agents of Erebos that were coming to claim his friend, but Brimaz's warriors ambushed him, pulling him away for his good as his friend died.

As her life ebbed, Elspeth prayed to the god that had killed her, asking for peace at last. However, on Theros, death is rarely the end of a traveler's journey. In [the Underworld](#) of Theros, most ordinary humans would be doomed to dwell in the eternal gray realm or to surrender their identities and become the [Returned](#). But Elspeth is no ordinary human. She Elspeth in the Underworld. noticed a young girl who is about to touch the veil, but then she is shocked that the girl's face is a husk and the Returned dragged her underwater she drowns until her spark is reignited in a blinding light. Despite her tragic end, she still holds her reasons for upholding her honor close to her heart: her deep love for Theros, her companions, and the innocents that she has sworn to protect.<sup>[12]</sup>

## Beyond death

Something had been disturbing Elspeth's rest in [Illysia](#).<sup>[11]</sup> The planeswalker [Ashiok](#) had been spreading their unique brand of [nightmares](#) throughout Theros, and not even the Underworld was safe from such dark power. Each night in her dreams, Elspeth relived her traumatic past, and her twisted memories were all too delicious for Ashiok to ignore. During such a nightmare, Elspeth would

[Ashiok](#) explores Elspeth's remorse and nightmares in the [Underworld](#).

pull Heliod's spear, Khrusor, from her nightmare which in real life would become [Shadowspear](#).<sup>[13]</sup>

Elspeth would eventually try to escape from the Underworld, gathering allies and followers on her path for vengeance against Heliod. Her escape attempt brought on the wrath of [Klothys](#), the God of Destiny. Klothys sent the [Nyxborn Calix](#) to bring Elspeth back, however she would always defeat him. Calix however would learn more and more about Elspeth with every fight, improving at every step.

Elspeth claimed that Shadowspear was the true Khrusor and that Heliod's spear was a fake. Due to the nature of belief in Theros, when mortals started to acknowledge Shadowspear as the true Khrusor, Heliod's spear weakened to the point of shattering when clashing against Elspeth's weapon. The God of the Sun was forced to yield and Erebus imprisoned him in the Underworld forever. By defeating his most hated enemy, Elspeth won the God of the Dead's eternal gratitude and the permission to return to the world of the living. After meeting with Daxos one last time, Elspeth planeswalked away, with Calix, whose spark ignited in the meantime, following her.

## Streets of New Capenna

Elspeth wants peace. For most of her life, she has been haunted by memories of being imprisoned by Phyrexians during her childhood. Though she escaped when her Planeswalker spark ignited, she never forgot her captors; the memory of them keeps her awake at night. Though Elspeth is constantly searching for a home where she can rest and finally stop running from her past, deep down she knows that she'll never find peace until she confronts her demons and ensures they can never trouble the Multiverse again.<sup>[14]</sup>

At some point, Elspeth found Ajani on Dominaria. The leonin told Elspeth the name of her home plane, which contains the metropolis of [New Capenna](#), and had been invaded by Phyrexians but somehow managed to defeat them. Elspeth decided to go to

At [Ajani's](#) request, she goes to [New Capenna](#) to investigate ways to defeat the [Phyrexians](#).

New Capenna, hoping to discover the way the denizens of the plane defeated the Phyrexian invaders. Arriving in the city, she felt out of place as the plane was nowhere near as she imagined it.<sup>[1]</sup> Elspeth began working odd jobs in the city before intervening between a group of [Maestros](#) enforcers and their victim, a shop owner. Dispatching the thugs, Elspeth was approached by Anhele, the Maestros' vampire lieutenant, who invited her to join the family. Hoping to learn more of the Phyrexian invaders from the Maestros' art collection, Elspeth accepted his offer.<sup>[15]</sup>

Elspeth started working for the Maestros while investigating their museum. She then met [Xander](#), the leader of the family who gave Elspeth her first taste of [Halo](#) and a mission to deliver something to Park Heights. There, she would meet [Vivien Reid](#).<sup>[16]</sup> After the mission, Xander tasked Elspeth to infiltrate the [Cabaretti](#) in order to find out if they truly can produce unlimited Halo. Elspeth would then get in contact with Jinnie, [Jetmir's](#) right hand.<sup>[17]</sup>

Successfully making her way into the family, Elspeth was staffing the [Crescendo](#) when the [Adversary's](#) agents attacked the event. She was able to escape with [Giada](#) thanks to [Vivien Reid's](#) help.<sup>[18]</sup> The three made their way to a cathedral, where Nixilis attacked and nearly defeated Elspeth before Giada sacrificed herself to reinvigorate and rearm her. Now wielding Luxior, a narrow sword infused with [Halo](#), she was able to strike a deadly blow against Nixilis, and he was forced to planeswalk away to safety.<sup>[5]</sup>

After the turmoil, Elspeth gained entry to [Xander's](#) Archives, where she learned of the plane's history and its battle with the [Phyrexian](#) threat. She and Vivien planeswalked to [Dominaria](#) to inform [the Gatewatch](#) of their findings.<sup>[5]</sup>

## Fighting the Phyrexians

Elspeth was recruited by the [Gatewatch](#) to join the fight against the Phyrexians. When she arrived on Dominaria, she learned about Ajani's [Completion](#) and took the news hard.<sup>[19]</sup> Elspeth used the grand hall of [Urza's Tower](#) as a training ground, eventually accepting



command of [Saheeli](#)'s mechanical soldiers at [Teferi](#)'s request.<sup>[6]</sup>

When the Phyrexians attacked the Tower, Elspeth led the counter-attack to provide [Saheeli](#), [Kaya](#) and [Teferi](#) with enough time to finish their mission with the [Temporal Anchor](#).<sup>[6]</sup> [Jodah](#) provided her with a powerful spell created by [Jaya Ballard](#) that helped her to obliterate the first wave of Phyrexians. The use of the spell provided clarity of mind and the resolve to bring Ajani back to his original self.<sup>[6]</sup> She wounded [Rona](#) and was confronted by [Tezzeret](#), who unexpectedly spared her life.<sup>[6]</sup>

Regrouping with the [Gatewatch](#) and additional assembled planeswalkers, she offered to guide them to New Phyrexia.<sup>[20]</sup>

## Artifacts acquired

- [Godsend](#) — a holy swordspears crafted by [Purphoros](#)
- A mask of the [Returned](#) — A deathmask forged for her in [the Underworld](#), using the two jewels of Godsend.
- [Shadowspear](#) — Heliod's spear, Khrusor, pulled from a nightmare and turned into a real life weapon.
- [Luxior](#) — A [Halo](#)-infused sword. A narrow weapon with an orb of Halo instead of a steel guard. Halo runs up tracks in the fuller, infusing the blade with a faint light.

## Trivia

- Elspeth is the primary protagonist of the [Theros Beyond Death](#) trailer.<sup>[21]</sup>
- Elspeth has been theorized to be an [angel](#) of [New Capenna](#).<sup>[22]</sup>

## Planeswalkers met

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Ajani Goldmane</a></li><li><a href="#">Ashiok</a></li><li><a href="#">Calix</a></li><li><a href="#">Chandra Nalaar</a><sup>[6]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Jace Beleren</a><sup>[20]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Kaito Shizuki</a><sup>[20]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Karn</a></li><li><a href="#">Kaya</a><sup>[19]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Kiora</a></li><li><a href="#">Koth</a></li><li><a href="#">Lukka</a><sup>[20]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Nahiri</a><sup>[20]</sup></li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Nissa Revane</a><sup>[6]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Saheeli Rai</a><sup>[19]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Tamiyo</a><sup>[23]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Teferi Akosa</a><sup>[19]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Tezzeret</a></li><li><a href="#">Tyvar Kell</a><sup>[20]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Vraska</a><sup>[20]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Venser</a></li><li><a href="#">Vivien Reid</a><sup>[16]</sup></li><li><a href="#">The Wanderer</a><sup>[20]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Wrenn</a><sup>[19]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Xenagos</a></li></ul> |
|--|---|

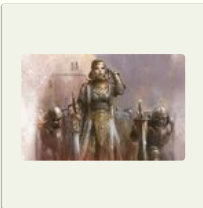
## Planes visited

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Alara</a></li><li><a href="#">Capenna</a><sup>[1]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Dominaria</a><sup>[15]</sup></li><li><a href="#">Kamigawa</a><sup>[23]</sup></li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Kodisha</a></li><li><a href="#">New Phyrexia</a></li><li><a href="#">Theros</a></li></ul> |
|--|---|

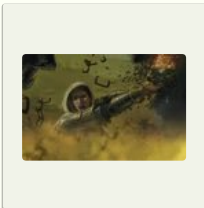
## Gallery



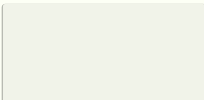
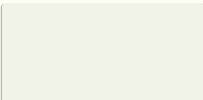
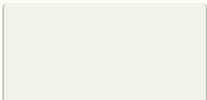
Elspeth's birth plane was dominated by the Phyrexians. Under torture, she ignited her spark.

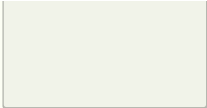


Knight of Bant.

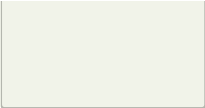


She uses her sword to channel mana and cast her spells.

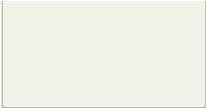




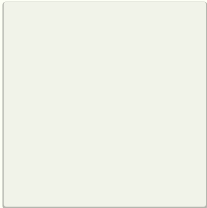
Elspeth specializes in magic that strengthens your allies.



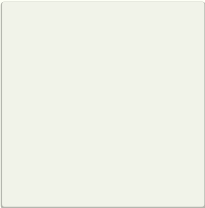
Elspeth can produce light capable of destroying her opponents.



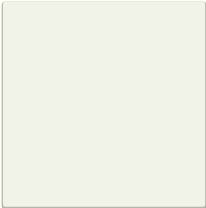
Elspeth's Radiance.



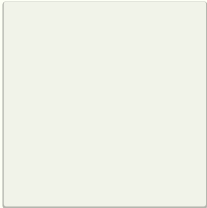
Remember the Fallen



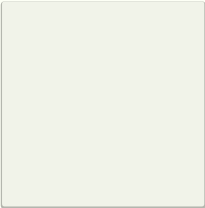
*"Tools and artisans can be destroyed, but the act of creation is inviolate."*



Heliod's Champion.



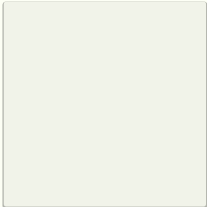
Elspeth and Ajani are great friends.



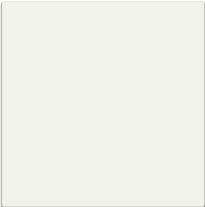
Vanquish the Foul



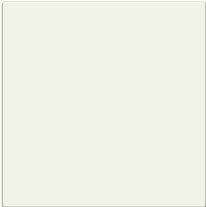
Heliod orders Elspeth to kill Polukranos.



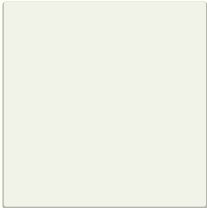
Elspeth's funerary mask, featuring Godsend's gems.



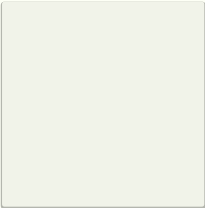
Elspeth wearing her funerary mask.



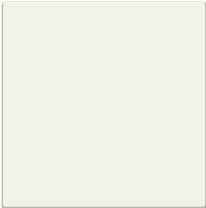
Alternate concepts for Elspeth's mask.



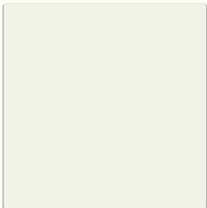
After being killed by Heliod, Elspeth resides in Ilysia in the Underworld of Theros.



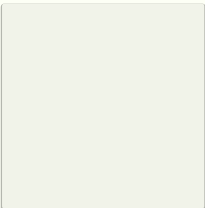
In Ilysia, Elspeth is plagued by Ashiok's nightmares. When she faces her horrors she accidentally creates Shadowspear.



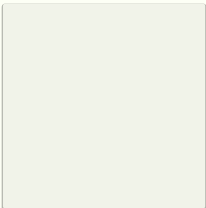
Elspeth begins her journey to escape the Underworld of Theros.



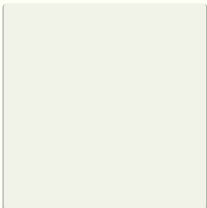
Elspeth, Sun's Nemesis alternative art.



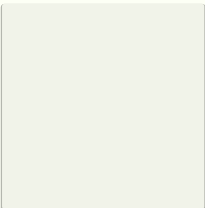
Elspeth protects [Giada](#) from the Families and [the Adversary](#).



[Giada](#) infuses Elspeth's sword, Luxior, with a [Halo](#) after being aided by the [planeswalker](#).



Elspeth with Shadowspear [Arena](#) avatar.



Elspeth with Luxior [Arena](#) avatar.

Story appearances

--	--	--	--	--	--

Title	Author	Publishing date	Set	Setting (plane)	Featuring
Honor Bound, Part 1	Jenna Helland	2009-04-23	Alara block	Alara	Elspeth Tirel, Aran
Honor Bound, Part 2	Jenna Helland	2009-04-30	Alara block	Alara	Elspeth Tirel, Aran
Honor Bound, Part 3	Jenna Helland	2009-05-07	Alara block	Alara	Elspeth Tirel, Aran
Gathering Forces, Part 1	Jenna Helland	2010-09-16	<i>Scars of Mirrodin</i>	Dominaria	Elspeth Tirel, Koth of the Hammer, Ajani Goldmane
Gathering Forces, Part 2	Jenna Helland	2010-09-23	<i>Scars of Mirrodin</i>	Dominaria	Elspeth Tirel, Koth of the Hammer
Gathering Forces, Part 3	Jenna Helland	2010-09-30	<i>Scars of Mirrodin</i>	Dominaria	Venser, Elspeth Tirel, Koth of the Hammer
Scarred, Part 1	Doug Beyer	2011-01-06	<i>Mirrodin Besieged</i>	Mirrodin	Koth of the Hammer, Venser, Elspeth Tirel
Scarred, Part 2	Doug Beyer	2011-01-13	<i>Mirrodin Besieged</i>	Mirrodin	Koth of the Hammer, Venser, Elspeth Tirel
Scarred, Part 3	Doug Beyer	2011-01-20	<i>Mirrodin Besieged</i>	Mirrodin	Koth of the Hammer, Venser, Elspeth Tirel
Dark Discoveries, Part 2	Doug Beyer	2011-05-12	<i>New Phyrexia</i>	New Phyrexia	Venser, Geth, Elspeth Tirel, Koth of the Hammer
The Lost Confession	Jenna Helland	2013-09-11	<i>Theros</i>	Theros	Elspeth Tirel, Koth of the Hammer
Drop for Drop	Kelly Digges	2015-05-20	<i>Journey into Nyx</i>	Theros	Kiora, Ajani Goldmane, Elspeth Tirel, Thassa, Arixmethes
Episode 1: Homecoming	Elise Kova	2022-03-28	<i>Streets of New Capenna</i>	Theros, Capenna	Elspeth Tirel, Ajani Goldmane, Heliodyr, Xander, Anhelio, Jetmir, Jinnie Fay, Regis, Kitt, Giada, Vivien Reid, Tezzeret, Urabrask
Episode 2: Dirty Laundry	Elise Kova	2022-03-28	<i>Streets of New Capenna</i>	Capenna, Dominaria	Elspeth Tirel, Ajani Goldmane, Anhelio, Ob Nixilis
Episode 3: Tests	Elise Kova	2022-03-30	<i>Streets of New Capenna</i>	Capenna	Elspeth Tirel, Xander, Vivien Reid, Rocco, Kitt, Jinnie Fay, Giada
The Side of Freedom	Elise Kova	2022-03-30	<i>Streets of New Capenna</i>	Capenna	Vivien Reid, Tezzeret, Urabrask, Navy, Anhelio, Elspeth Tirel
Episode 4: The Font	Elise Kova	2022-04-04	<i>Streets of New Capenna</i>	Capenna	Xander, Anhelio, Ob Nixilis, Elspeth Tirel, Jinnie Fay, Kitt, Giada, Jetmir, Vivien Reid
Episode 5: Hymn of the Angels	Elise Kova	2022-04-05	<i>Streets of New Capenna</i>	Capenna	Elspeth Tirel, Vivien Reid, Giada, Jinnie Fay, Kamiz, Jetmir, Ob Nixilis, Anhelio
The Brothers' War - Chapter 1: Stronghold	Reinhardt Suarez	2022-10-21	<i>The Brothers' War</i>	Dominaria	Teferi, Jodah, Elspeth Tirel, Kaya, Vivien Reid, Saheeli Rai, Wrenn, Seven

The Brothers' War - Chapter 4: The Dark	Reinhardt Suarez	2022-10-25	<i>The Brothers' War</i>	Dominaria	Elspeth Tirel, Wrenn, Seven, Chandra Nalaar, Nissa Revane, Jodah, Kaya, Saheeli Rai, Rona, Tezzeret, Ashiok
The Brothers' War - Chapter 5: Exodus	Reinhardt Suarez	2022-10-26	<i>The Brothers' War</i>	Dominaria	Chandra Nalaar, Nissa Revane, Kaya, Saheeli Rai, Teferi Akosa, Wrenn, Seven, Nahiri, Jace Beleren, Jodah, Elspeth Tirel, The Wanderer, Kaito Shizuki, Tyvar Kell, Lukka, Vraska

## In-game references

Represented in:

- [Elspeth, Knight-Errant](#)
- [Elspeth Resplendent](#)
- [Elspeth, Sun's Champion](#)
- [Elspeth, Sun's Nemesis](#)
- [Elspeth Tirel](#)
- [Elspeth, Undaunted Hero](#)

Associated cards:

- [By Elspeth's Command](#)
- [Elspeth Conquers Death](#)
- [Elspeth's Devotee](#)
- [Elspeth's Nightmare](#)
- [Shadowspear](#)

Depicted in:

- [Ardent Plea](#)
- [Agonizing Remorse](#)
- [Clarion Ultimatum](#)<sup>[24]</sup>
- [Commune with the Gods](#)
- [Crusade](#) (*Duel Decks: Elspeth vs. Tezzeret*)
- [Daring Escape](#)
- [Dauntless Escort](#)<sup>[25]</sup>
- [Deicide](#)
- [Godsend](#)
- [Gods Willing](#)
- [Hall of Triumph](#) (*Hero's Path*)<sup>[26]</sup>
- [Hall of Triumph](#) (*Journey into Nyx*)<sup>[26]</sup>
- [Luxior, Giada's Gift](#)
- [Most Wanted](#)
- [Remember the Fallen](#)
- [Resistance Reunited](#)
- [Solidarity of Heroes](#)
- [Soul Parry](#)
- [The Champion](#) (*Hero's Path*)
- [Triumphant Surge](#)
- [Vanquish the Foul](#)
- [Wall of Omens](#) (*Double Masters 2022*, #344)
- [Worst Fears](#)

Quoted or referred to:

- [Amateur Auteur](#) (*Unstable*, #3c)
- [An Offer You Can't Refuse](#)
- [Archetype of Courage](#)
- [Corrupt Court Official](#) (*Streets of New Capenna*)
- [Guardians of Akrasa](#)
- [Knight of the Reliquary](#) (*Conflux*)
- [Metropolis Angel](#)
- [Mischief and Mayhem](#)
- [Pristine Talisman](#)
- [Relentless Pursuit](#)
- [Reprisal](#) (*Journey into Nyx*)
- [Sage of Mysteries](#)
- [Sunbond](#)
- [Sunlit Hoplite](#)
- [Unwinding Clock](#)

## References

- ↑ <sup>*a* *b* *c*</sup> Elise Kova (March 28, 2022). "Episode 1: Homecoming". *magicthegathering.com*. Wizards of the Coast.
- ↑ <sup>*a* *b*</sup> Planeswalker Bios, Duels of the Planeswalkers 2014
- ↑ Mark Rosewater (March 4, 2016). "Today is my birthday can i have some trivia on my...". *Blogatog*. Tumblr.
- ↑ Theros: Godsend, Part I, Chapter 2
- ↑ <sup>*a* *b* *c*</sup> Elise Kova (April 5, 2022). "Episode 5: Hymn of the Angels". *magicthegathering.com*. Wizards of the Coast.
- ↑ <sup>*a* *b* *c* *d* *e* *f* *g* *h*</sup> Seanan McGuire (October 26, 2022). "The Brother's War - Chapter 4: The Dark". Magicthegathering.com.
- ↑ Theros: Godsend, Part I, Chapter 8
- ↑ Jenna Helland (2009), "*Honor Bound*", Wizards of the Coast

7. ↑ Jenna Helland (2010), "*Gathering Forces*", *Wizards of the Coast*
10. ↑ Doug Beyer (2011), "*Scarred*", *Wizards of the Coast*
11. ↑ <sup>a b</sup> *Wizards of the Coast* (December 16, 2019). "*The Theros Beyond Death Story on Cards*". *magicthegathering.com*. *Wizards of the Coast*.
12. ↑ Mel Li (August 19, 2015). "*Checking in on the Planeswalkers (2015)*". *magicthegathering.com*. *Wizards of the Coast*.
13. ↑ *Wizards of the Coast* (January 10, 2020). "*Theros Beyond Death Story Summary*". *magicthegathering.com*. *Wizards of the Coast*.
14. ↑ Doug Beyer, Ari Zirulnik and Grace Fong (April 22, 2021). "*The Legends You'll Find in Streets of New Capenna*". *magicthegathering.com*. *Wizards of the Coast*.
15. ↑ <sup>a b</sup> Elise Kova (March 29, 2022). "*Episode 2: Dirty Laundry*". *magicthegathering.com*. *Wizards of the Coast*.
16. ↑ <sup>a b</sup> Elise Kova (March 30, 2022). "*The Side of Freedom*". *magicthegathering.com*. *Wizards of the Coast*.
17. ↑ Elise Kova (March 30, 2022). "*Episode 3: Tests*". *magicthegathering.com*. *Wizards of the Coast*.
18. ↑ Elise Kova (April 4, 2022). "*Episode 4: The Font*". *magicthegathering.com*. *Wizards of the Coast*.
19. ↑ <sup>a b c d e</sup> Reinhardt Suarez (October 21, 2022). "*The Brothers' War - Chapter 1: Stronghold*". *magicthegathering.com*. *Wizards of the Coast*.
20. ↑ <sup>a b c d e f g h</sup> Seanan McGuire (October 26, 2022). "*The Brother's War - Chapter 5: Exodus*". *Magicthegathering.com*.
21. ↑ *Theros Beyond Death Official Trailer - Magic: The Gathering* (Video). *Magic: The Gathering*. YouTube (December 12, 2019).
22. ↑ Mark Rosewater (July 17, 2022). "*If or when: an angel planeswalker?*". *Blogatog*. Tumblr.
23. ↑ <sup>a b</sup> Chris L'Etoile (October 5, 2016). "*Release*". *magicthegathering.com*. *Wizards of the Coast*.
24. ↑ *Magic Arcana* (October 27, 2008). "*Whose Ultimatum?*". *magicthegathering.com*. *Wizards of the Coast*.
25. ↑ *Magic Arcana* (May 13, 2009). "*Dauntlessly Escorting*". *magicthegathering.com*. *Wizards of the Coast*.
26. ↑ <sup>a b</sup> Trick Jarrett (April 07, 2014). "*Hall of Triumph*". *magicthegathering.com*. *Wizards of the Coast*.

## External links

- [The Magic Creative Team](#) (January 8, 2014). "[Planeswalker's Guide to \*Born of the Gods\*](#)". [magicthegathering.com](#). Wizards of the Coast.
- [Inside R&D: Journey into Nyx, Part 1](#) (Video). YouTube.
- [Magic Creative Team](#) (May 26, 2014). "[Journey's End](#)". [magicthegathering.com](#). Wizards of the Coast.
- [Mike McArtor](#) (May 30, 2014). "[From Alara to Theros](#)". [magicthegathering.com](#). Wizards of the Coast.

V • T • E	Alara	[Expand]
V • T • E	Theros	[Expand]
V • T • E	Planeswalkers	[Collapse]
	Planeswalker Types	[Collapse]
	Aminatou • Angrath • Ajani Goldmane • Arlinn Kord • Ashiok • Basri Ket • Nicol Bolas • Calix • Chandra Nalaar • Comet • Dock Fayden • Dakkon Blackblade • Daretti • Davriel Cane • Geyadrone Dihada • Domri Rade • Dovin Baan • Elspeth Tirel • Estrid • Freyalise • Garruk Wildspeaker • Gideon Jura • Grist • Huatli • Jace Beleren • Jared Carthalion • Jaya Ballard • Jeska • Kaito Shizuki • Karn • Kasmina • Kaya Cassir • Kiora • Koth of the Hammer • Liliana Vess • Lukka • Nahiri • Narset • Niko Aris • Nissa Revane • Ob Nixilis • Oko • Ral Zarek • Rowan Kenrith • Saheeli Rai • Samut • Sarkhan Vol • Serra • Sivitri Scarzam • Sorin Markov • Tevesh Szat • Tamiyo • Teferi • Teyo Verada • Tezzeret • Tibalt • Tyvar Kell • Ugin • Urza • Venser • Vivien Reid • Vraska • The Wanderer • Will Kenrith • Windgrace • Wrenn • Xenagos • Jiang Yanggu • Mu Yanling	
Crossover	Bahamut • Elminster • Ellywick Tumblestrum • Lolth • Minsc • Mordenkainen • Tasha • Zariel	
Non-eternal	Abian • B.O.B. • Byode • Duck • Dungeon Master • Ersta • Inzerva	
Related	By Format • Venser Scale	
	Lore	[Expand]

## Categories

Community content is available under [CC BY-NC-SA 2.5](#) unless otherwise noted.



#### EXPLORE PROPERTIES

[Fandom](#)

[Futhead](#)

[Cortex RPG](#)

[Fanatical](#)

[Muthead](#)

#### FOLLOW US



#### OVERVIEW

[What is Fandom?](#)

[Terms of Use](#)

[About](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Careers](#)

[Global Sitemap](#)

[Press](#)

[Local Sitemap](#)

[Contact](#)

#### COMMUNITY

[Community Central](#)

[Help](#)

[Support](#)

[Do Not Sell My Info](#)

#### ADVERTISE

[Media Kit](#)

[Fandomatic](#)

[Contact](#)

#### FANDOM APPS

Take your favorite fandoms with you and never miss a beat.



MTG Wiki is a FANDOM Games Community.

---

[VIEW MOBILE SITE](#)